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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/523,375	03/10/2000	Noriaki Hashimoto	051633-5001	5891
6449	7590 12/31/2003		EXAMINER	
ROTHWELL, FIGG, ERNST & MANBECK, P.C.			PHUNKULH, BOB A	
1425 K STRE SUITE 800	EEI, N.W.		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGT	GTON, DC 20005		2661	9
			DATE MAILED: 12/31/2003	, /

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No.   Applicating   Application No.   Application   Applicat				
Examiner Bob A. Phunkulh 2661  -The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ② MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be evaluated under the provisions of 3°C FR 1.136(a). In or event, however, may a reply be traney filed  If the period for reply is pecified above, the macrouns statistically period will exply and will be capitally an or because of the cover should be traney filed. The period for reply is pecified above, the macrouns statistically period will apply and will expire SX (8) MONTHS from the realizing date of this communication.  If the period for reply is pecified above, the macrouns statistically period will apply and will expire SX (8) MONTHS from the realizing date of this communication.  If the period for reply specified above, the macrouns statistically period will apply and will expire SX (8) MONTHS from the realizing date of this communication.  If the period for reply specified above, the macrouns statistically period will apply and will expire SX (8) MONTHS from the realizing date of this communication.  If the period for reply specified above, the macrouns statistically and the period of the communication.  If the period for reply is pecified above, the macrouns statistically and the period of the communication.  If the period for reply specified above, the statistic period of the communication.  Provided the statistic period of the period of the communication.  It is period for reply specified above, the statistic period of the communication.  It is period for reply specified above, the statistic period of the period of the period to the period to the period the period to the period		Application No.	Applicant(s)	
Bob A. Phunkulh  2681  -The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extension of the other property is pecified above is less than they (30) cays, an early which he standard period will appear and will be considered time.  If the period for reply appedited show is less than they (30) cays, an early which he standard period will appear and will be considered from the period for reply appedited bows. The manner matching repload will appear and will appear to the property of the period for reply appedited and period for the communication.  If the period for reply appedited and the period is a standard period will appear and will appear and the period for reply appedited and the period for the communication.  If the period for reply appedited and the period is a standard period will appear and will appear and the period of the communication.  If the period for reply appedited and the period is a standard period will appear and will be considered from the period of the communication.  An of the standard period is a condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4) Claim(s) 1.12 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5) Claim(s) 32.112 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 1.2.2 and 9 is/are rejected.  7) Claim(s) 32.112 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 32.112 is/are allowed.  6) Claim(s) 3.1.31 is/are objected to by the Examiner.  10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  10) The cath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the altached Offi		09/523,375	HASHIMOTO, NORIAKI	
— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address — Period for Reply  A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Expression of time may be available under the provisions of 3 CFR 1.13(4). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed by the period for reply specified above, he maximum statistopy priod village by and will expire \$K(9) MONTHS from the making date of his communication for reply specified above, he maximum statistopy priod village by and will expire \$K(9) MONTHS from the making date of his communication for reply specified above, he maximum statistopy priod village by and will expire \$K(9) MONTHS from the making date of his communication for reply specified for reply specified store, and the making date of his communication.  Fabrius to reply whither he set or extended period for reply will, by statistic cause his application to become ABANDONED (55 \$1.33).  From the period for the set of the communication, even it thinks the file of the communication.  From the period for the set of this communication, even it thinks the file of this communication.  From the period for the set of the period of the period of the communication.  From the period for the set of the period of the	Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  - Entransous of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.35(s), is no event, however, may a reply be timely filed  - Entransous of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.35(s), is no event, however, may a reply be timely filed  - Entransous of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.35(s), is no event, however, may a reply be timely filed  - Entransous of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.35(s), and the statistical provisions of the mailing table of this communication, even a timely filed, may rectue any seamed patient term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(s).  - Status  1)  Responsive to communication(s) filled on 10 March 2000.  2a)  This action is FINAL.				
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.  Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 3C FR 1.15(8). In no event, however, may a reply be timely fited after SIX (6) MONTHS from the maillang date of this communication.  It is a substitute of the provision of the p		ion appears on the cover sheet	with the correspondence address	
1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 March 2000.  2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b)  This action is non-final.  3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.  Disposition of Claims  4)  Claim(s) 1-112 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s)	THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICA  - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 33 after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communic  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) de  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statuto  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will,  - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).	TION. 7 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may attorn. ays, a reply within the statutory minimum of the ry period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MO by statute, cause the application to become	a reply be timely filed  irty (30) days will be considered timely.  DNTHS from the mailing date of this communication.  ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).	
2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.  3		n 10 March 2000		
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A) Claim(s) 1-112 is/are pending in the application.  4a) Of the above claim(s)	3) Since this application is in condition for	allowance except for formal ma		
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4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.  5) □ Claim(s) 32-112 is/are allowed.  6) □ Claim(s) 1,28 and 9 is/are rejected.  7) □ Claim(s) 3-8, 11-31 is/are objected to.  8) □ Claim(s) are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.  Application Papers  9) □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  10) □ The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a) □ accepted or b) □ objected to by the Examiner.  Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  11) □ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120  12) □ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) □ All b) □ Some * c) □ None of:  1. □ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2. □ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.  3. □ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  13) □ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  Altachment(s)  11) □ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.	· _	plication		
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Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.  Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120  12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  a) All b) Some c) None of:  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No.  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.  13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.  14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.  Aktachment(s)  1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	9)⊠ The specification is objected to by the E	xaminer.		
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#### **DETAILED ACTION**

### Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that ,the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

## Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Dantu et al. (US 6,532,088), hereinafter Dantu.

Regarding claim 1, Dantu discloses a method for operating a resilient closed communication network comprising at least one communication ring, the method comprising the steps of:

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-receiving a data packet from a first external network at a first distributing station connected to the resilient closed communication network (receiving IP packet 124 at node 204, see figure 2);

-identifying a second distributing station connected to the resilient closed communication network from which the data packet is to be forwarded to a second external network;

-determining functioning routes from the first distributing station to the second distributing station within the resilient closed communication network;

-selecting an optimal route among the functioning routes; and

-sending the data packet from the first distributing station to the second distributing station using the optimal route (see claim 1 and figure 3).

Regarding claim 9, Dantu discloses no segment of the at least one communication ring is used as a dedicated protection segment (one ring is used as a dedicated protection ring and the other as working ring, see col. 8 lines 1-19).

Regarding claim 10, Dantu discloses the at least one communication ring is made of fiber optic cables (see col. 7 lines 65 to col. 8 line 19).

# Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dantu.

Regarding claim 2, Dantu fails to disclose the optimization factors including an available traffic volume, an actual distance value, and a preference value are considered in the selecting step.

However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention was made to cause the processor 402 of node 400 to consider the traffic value, distance, and preference value when determining the path route in order to avoid overloading the communication link.

#### Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 32-112 are allowed.

Claims 3-8, 11-31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### Conclusion

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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u • : ,

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Bob A. Phunkulh** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-8251.** The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 A.M. to

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor **Douglas W. Olms**, can be reach on **(703) 305-4703**. The fax phone number for this group is **(703) 872-9314**.

**Bob A. Phunkulh** 

TC 2600

4:00 P.M.

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December 22, 2003